

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DEPT FOR EUR/SE

E.O. 11652: NXA
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU
SUBJECT: MEDICAL CARE FOR "TFSC PRIME MINISTER" NEJAT KNOUK

REF: NICOSIA 1418

1. "TFSC FOREIGN MINISTER" VEDAT CHELIK, IN MAY 31 LETTER TO AMBASSADOR, INQUIRED WHETHER WE COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN PUTTING "PRIME MINISTER" KONUK IN TOUCH WITH U.S. HEART SPECIALIST. WE TOLD KONUK, WHO IS PLANNING TO DEPART FOR THE U.S. JUNE 7, THAT WE WOULD INFORM THE DEPARTMENT AND DO WHAT WE COULD TO PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH LEADING HEART SPECIALISTS IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON. IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER QUESTION WHETHER U.S. GOVERNMENT COULD MEET KNOUK'S HOSPITAL EXPENSES, WE SAID WE WERE CERTAIN THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

2. KONUK, WHO HAS HAD A HISTORY OF HEART AILMENTS SINCE 1972, VISITED LONDON IN AUGUST 1976 AND IN APRIL 1977 FOR MEDICAL CHECK-UPS BY A DR. LAWSON MCDONALD. DURING AUGUST VISIT, ACCORDING TO KNOUK'S MEDICAL RECORDS (WHICH HE
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WILL BE BRINGING WITH HIM), MCDONALD FOUND THAT KONUK HAD "ANGINA PECTORIS SYNDROME WITH NORMAL CORONARY ARTERIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS." DURING THE APRIL 1977 VISIT, MCDONALD FOUND KONUK "FREE OF SYMPTOMS." KONUK NOW APPARENTLY WANTS A SECOND MEDICAL OPINION.

3. IF DEPARTMENT IS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE US NAMES OF

HEART SPECIALISTS PRIOR TO KONUK'S SCHEDULED JUNE 7 DEPARTURE, WE SUGGEST THAT INFORMATION BE PASSED ON THROUGH NAIL ATALAY ("TFSC" REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK). WE TOLD KONUK WE WOULD BE SUGGESTING THIS TO DEPARTMENT AND ENCOURAGED HIM TO CONTACT ATALAY ON HIS ARRIVAL.

4. JUNE 2 LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND BAYRAK RADIO REPORTED THAT KONUK WAS GOING TO US TO "HAVE MEETINGS WITH US OFFICIALS." WE HAD ALSO HEARD INFORMALLY THAT KONUK WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING CHELIK TO NEW YORK FOR UNSC DEBATE ON UNFICYP MANDATE RENEWAL. WE HAVE HAD NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF EITHER OF THESE EXPLANATIONS FOR KONUK'S TRAVEL, AND WE NOTE THAT KONUK HAS VERY LIMITED COMMAND OF ENGLISH SO DOUBT IF HE WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE IN UN IN ANY EVENT. IF HE IS IN NEW YORK DURING DEBATE, WE ASSUME THAT HE MIGHT PUT IN AN APPEARANCE AT MEETINGS WITH CHELIK BUT THAT HE WOULD NOT SPEAK.

5. HAVING IN MIND RECENT PRESS CONFERENCES IN US BY IV GRANTEE TANSEL FIKRI (REFTEL), ON JUNE 2 DCM CALLED GOC FONMIN DIRGEN PELAGHIAS TO SAY WE HAD SEEN REPORTS OF KONUK'S INTENTION TO TRAVEL TO US AND TO MEET WITH US OFFICIALS. DCM TOLD PELAGHIAS THAT WE DID HAVE REQUEST FROM KONUK TO PUT HIM IN TOUCH WITH DOCTORS FOR CONSULTATION ON HIS HEART CONDITION BUT THAT WE HAD NOT UNTIL NOW BEEN AWARE OF WHEN KONUK WAS LIKELY TO TRAVEL. DCM ALSO SAID THAT WE KNEW OF NO REQUESTS FOR KONUK TO MEET WITH US OFFICIALS. PELAGHIAS THANKED US FOR THE INFORMATION BUT MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT. CRAWFORD

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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